Central Asian Republics Regional

The Challenge

The countries of Central Asia are critical allies in the war on terrorism, potential sources of energy, and sitting at a crossroads in a neighborhood in flux. These countries face pervasive poverty, income disparities, authoritarian rule, political repression, extreme corruption, declining health standards, and potential for extremism. Although economic development in the region is progressing, true characteristics of democracy have yet to take root. Elections have been characterized by international organizations as being not truly free and fair, media restrictions still exist, and crackdowns on civil society organizations are commonplace. The nature of development challenges requires coordinated assistance in regional water management, energy sector development, cross-border disease control, trade, and conflict mitigation. Because problems extend to Afghanistan as well, efforts are underway to develop programs that address common issues across the wider Central Asia Region.

Objectives, Sectors and Workforce

Mission Director: Chris Crowley

MCA Status: Not a Candidate PEPFAR Focus Country: No

Provided or Received Services From Other Missions: Provided

Program Budget (Appropriations by Objective)	FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07	Perf	005 SO formance Score	Direct SO Admin. Cost Ratio
176-0131 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	469	170	75	200	-57.4%			25.20
176-0161 Energy and Water	1,658	825	800	700	-57.8%			3.84
176-0211 Democratic Culture and Institutions	207	90	0	0	N/A			34.10
176-0240 Conflict Prevention	0	70	0	0	N/A	N/A		14.50
176-0320 Health and Population	1,600	1,775	2,013	1,588	-0.8%			3.98
176-0420 Cross-Cutting Programs	66	70	53	70	6.1%			10.40
Country Total	4.000	3.000	2.941	2.558	-36.1%			

Program Bu	daet (Appro	priations by	/ Account)

Child Survival and Health Programs Fund FREEDOM Support Act

Total

Total

FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
1,000	1,000	1,238	988	-1.2%
3,000	2,000	1,703	1,570	-47.7%
4,000	3,000	2,941	2,558	-36.1%

Program Budget by Sector and Account		FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
Agriculture and Environment	FSA	1,015	825	800	700	-31.0%
Higher Education & Training	FSA	924	0	0	0	N/A
Economic Growth	FSA	254	240	128	270	6.3%
Human Rights	FSA	10	0	0	0	N/A
Democracy and Governance	FSA	197	90	0	0	N/A
Conflict Management / Humanitarian Assistance	FSA	0	70	0	0	N/A
Family Planning / Reproductive Health	FSA	0	27	64	33	N/A
HIV / AIDS	CSH	1,000	1,000	1,238	988	-1.2%
Child Survival and Maternal Health	FSA	450	238	576	360	-20.0%
Other Infectious Diseases	FSA	150	510	135	207	38.0%

4,000

US Direct Hires
US Non Direct Hires
Foreign Nationals
Total

	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	Percent Change FY 04-07
;	21	25	27	27	28.6%
;	19	26	22	18	-5.3%
;	180	187	195	193	7.2%
١	220	238	244	238	8.2%

2,941

2,558

-36.1%

3,000

Operating Expense	FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
Salaries and benefits	3,215	2,943	1,786	1,454	-54.8%
Travel	831	820	513	519	-37.5%
Transportation of things	386	439	236	272	-29.5%
Rent	1,746	1,740	1,220	862	-50.6%
Security	79	199	205	201	154.4%
Equipment	768	499	0	144	-81.3%
ICASS - Operating Expense only	891	881	1,909	2,450	175.0%
Other Operating Expense	1,297	1,210	831	798	-38.5%
Total OE Budget	9,213	8,731	6,700	6,700	-27.3%
US direct hire salary and benefits	3,255	3,498	3,166	3,508	7.8%

Program Funded Administrative Expenses			7,257
Country Total Administrative Budget			17,465
Percent of Bureau OE Total			17.3%
		•	
Mission Summary*			

Other Major Donors:

Bilateral: Donors are identified in individual Central Asia country summaries.

Multilateral: World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

^{*}The staff and operating expenses shown relate to the five Central Asia country programs as well as the Central Asia Regional program. However, the program funds shown are solely for the Central Asia Regional program. Therefore, a summary table with ratios of these program funds to the above staff would be misleading and is not presented.

Central Asian Republics Regional PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

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Accounts	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Current	FY 2007 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	1,000	1,000	1,238	988
FREEDOM Support Act	3,000	2,000	1,703	1,570
Total Program Funds	4,000	3,000	2,941	2,558

s	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY				
176-0131 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises					
FSA	469	170	75	200	
176-0161 Energy and Water					
FSA	1,658	825	800	700	
176-0211 Democratic Culture and Institutions					
FSA	207	90	0	0	
176-0240 Conflict Prevention					
FSA	0	70	0	0	
176-0320 Health and Population					
CSH	1,000	1,000	1,238	988	
FSA	600	775	775	600	
176-0420 Cross-Cutting Programs	•	•	•		
FSA	66	70	53	70	

Mission Director, Chris Crowley

USAID Mission: Program Title:

Pillar:

Strategic Objective:

Status:

Planned FY 2006 Obligation: Prior Year Unobligated: Proposed FY 2007 Obligation: Year of Initial Obligation:

Estimated Year of Final Obligation:

Central Asian Republics Regional Small and Medium Sized Enterprises Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

> 176-0131 Continuing

\$75,000 FSA \$20,000 FSA \$200,000 FSA

2001 2007

Summary: USAID's program to improve the business environment for the growth of small and medium enterprises includes training and technical assistance to increase opportunities to obtain business information, knowledge, and skills; to support more responsive financial institutions, instruments, and markets; and to improve the implementation of laws and regulations.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Strengthen the Financial Services Sector and Increase Access to Capital (\$75,000 FSA, \$20,000 FSA carryover). USAID will continue to strengthen the capacity of microfinance institutions to provide financial services on a sustainable basis. Special attention will be given to expanding services to rural areas. Principal contractors/grantees: Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers for Overseas Cooperative Assistance and to be determined (TBD)(primes).

FY 2007 Program:

Strengthen the Financial Services Sector and Increase Access to Capital (\$200,000 FSA). USAID will support further expansion of access to finance for micro and small entrepreneurs, particularly in rural areas. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD (prime).

Performance and Results: Regional funds enable USAID to support specific regional activities and high priority needs in countries in which country funds are insufficient. USAID, through its Economic Policy Reform Project, provided assistance to improve implementation of tax legislation in Tajikistan. USAID technical experts reviewed the newly-adopted Tax Code to identify whether it promotes private sector development and suits existing tax administration capacity. Several significant draft regulations were evaluated, including Taxpayer Registration, Value-Added Tax, and Simplified Taxation, with a number of recommendations made to bring them in line with international best practices.

Using the funds from the FY 2004 budget, the Land Tenure Project, in close collaboration with other stakeholders, helped to develop a draft Framework Strategy for Land Reform in Tajikistan. After a series of issues-focused preliminary workshops, a plenary workshop produced a matrix of proposed land reform priorities for the next three years. The priorities covered a number of areas including land administration, farms and farm structures, legal education/legal aid, and gender. With the development of the draft Framework Strategy for Land Reform, there is now a clearer list of policy and legislative priorities being considered by the Government. Reluctance within Government to acknowledge that legislative reform was necessary was overcome by developing a collaborative relationship and providing comparative law workshops to show the experiences of countries with similar histories.

Regional funds were used by the Central Asian Microfinance Alliance (CAMFA) to strengthen the capacity of Central Asian microfinance associations to function effectively and to improve their sustainability prospects. CAMFA's current assistance to the associations supports over 60 microfinance institutions (MFIs) with a consolidated portfolio of over \$51 million and 91,000 active clients. Funds were used to organize CAMFA's regional conference for MFIs. The conference served as a venue for regional MFIs to learn best practices, network, exchange experiences, and meet international microfinance experts.

By program's end, entrepreneurs will have greater access to credit to start up and run successful businesses. Microfinance institutions will have increased capacity to provide services on a sustainable basis.

176-0131 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	FSA
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	3,079
Expenditures	1,455
Unliquidated	1,624
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	170
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	3,249
Expenditures	1,455
Unliquidated	1,794
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	20
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	75
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	95
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	200
Future Obligations	200
Est. Total Cost	3,744

USAID Mission: Central Asian Republics Regional **Program Title:**

Energy and Water

Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade Pillar:

176-0161

Strategic Objective: Status: Continuing

Planned FY 2006 Obligation: \$800,000 FSA **Prior Year Unobligated:** \$350,000 FSA Proposed FY 2007 Obligation: \$700,000 FSA

Year of Initial Obligation: 2001 **Estimated Year of Final Obligation:** 2007

Summary: USAID's energy and water program is helping the Central Asia Region improve economic policy and governance, increase private sector growth, and expand and improve access to economic and social infrastructure.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Improve Economic Policy and the Business Environment (\$310,000 FSA, \$312,000 FSA carryover). Due to a growing energy demand in the region, USAID will assist Central Asian nations to develop policies that lead to transparent and market-based energy trading agreements. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD (prime).

Increase Agricultural Sector Productivity (\$490,000 FSA, \$38,000 FSA carryover). The growth of rural economies in Central Asia depends on local control of resources and increased citizen participation in decision-making. USAID will increase the number of Water User Associations (WUA) receiving assistance, and continue to promote WUA policy and procedural reforms, drawing from regional experience. Principal contractors/grantees: Winrock International (prime), Academy for Educational Development (sub), and New Mexico State University (sub).

Agricultural Finance Plus (AgFin+) aims to stimulate economic growth throughout the farm-to-market value chain. Through training and technical assistance, AgFin+ will assist farmers to overcome constraints they face in delivering products to targeted markets and to capture a return on their investment. The AgFin+ program, complementing USAID's economic development activities such as small business development, will also stimulate agriculture-related businesses such as agri-services, agritrade, and agri-processing which are critical to the farm-to-market chain. Principal contractors/grantees: Development Alternatives Inc. (prime) and Winrock International (sub).

FY 2007 Program:

Improve Economic Policy and the Business Environment (\$450,000 FSA). Through a program for regional cooperation in energy and water, USAID will continue to work with Central Asian authorities and specialists on bilateral and multilateral agreements to support the development of a transparent regional energy market. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined (TBD) (prime).

Increase Agricultural Sector Productivity (\$250,000 FSA). AgFin+ will continue to support ongoing agricultural activities and will expand access to local, regional, and/or international markets for a larger number of pilot groups and/or associations. Principal contractors/grantees: Development Alternatives Inc. (prime) and Winrock International (sub).

Regional funds will be used to expand the number of hectares under improved water management for agricultural production. The program will assist more WUAs to implement good management and Principal contractors/grantees: Winrock International (prime), Academy for democratic practices. Educational Development (sub), and New Mexico State University (sub).

Performance and Results: Regional funding was used primarily for two activities: 1) providing technical assistance on the complex issues associated with energy and water exchanges between upstream and downstream riparian states of the Syr Darya River Basin through the development of two modeling programs needed for planning and forecasting; and 2) improving water data collection and regional communication capabilities.

This past year, the Decision Support System (DSS) for the Middle Syr Darya, a water planning model, was installed at key regional water management agencies and staff were trained in its use. The main objective of the system is to predict the water demand from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan on Toktogul Reservoir, located in Kyrgyzstan, in advance of the irrigation season. The DSS was tested in spring 2005 and has proven its value by predicting in April (two months earlier than the regular prediction time) this summer's water demand from downstream countries on Kyrgyzstan's Toktogul Reservoir. The second management tool that USAID completed and made operational is the multi-year Naryn Cascade Operation Planning Instrument (NASPI). This modeling tool includes all water controls and demands of the Syr Darya River Basin up to the Aral Sea across all four basin countries. A first operational version of the NASPI was completed and agreed upon by regional and national organizations involved in the sector, including the regional electricity dispatch center, the Basin Management Organization, and power plants located on the Syr Darya River. Both of these tools, which are linked to USAID-funded data monitoring and reporting systems, will diminish friction between the four countries and promote cooperation in water and energy management.

During the past year, work was completed in the installation of a meteor-burst communications system in Central Asia, and the number of sites where water data is collected and transmitted was increased. These developments will improve the ability of Central Asian water management agencies to collect and transmit weather and water resources data in a timely fashion. The meteor-burst communications system consists of a master station, 29 remote stations, three receiving stations, and associated computers and software to receive and store information. The completion of this project, which has had a major positive impact on the water management capabilities across the region, is one of the major successes of the project over the past five years.

By program's end, conditions will have been created for increased electricity trade based on transparent, competitive market approaches. Electricity policy and regulatory reforms will have improved the environment for a more transparent and financially viable energy system. Improved irrigation water management through the development of Water User Associations, and assistance to farmers and agribusinesses will have brought added income to the agricultural sector.

FSA
8,338
5,862
2,476
590
2,060
8,928
7,922
1,006
350
800
1,150
700
1,200
11,978

176-0240 Conflict Prevention	FSA
Through September 30, 2004	'
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	70
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	70
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	70
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	35
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	35
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	0
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	105

USAID Mission: Central Asian Republics Regional **Program Title:**

Health and Population Global Health

Pillar: Strategic Objective: 176-0320 Status: Continuing

Planned FY 2006 Obligation: \$1,238,000 CSH; \$775,000 FSA

Prior Year Unobligated:

Proposed FY 2007 Obligation: \$988,000 CSH; \$600,000 FSA Year of Initial Obligation: 2001

Estimated Year of Final Obligation: 2007

Summary: USAID's regional health program is establishing and institutionalizing reforms to improve the quality, equity, and efficiency of health systems throughout Central Asia, and promotes cross-border responses for tuberculosis (TB) control and HIV/AIDS prevention. USAID's cross-cutting anti-corruption objective is supported through increased transparency of the health system.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Address Other Health Vulnerabilities (\$640,000 FSA). USAID will continue to promote evidence-based medicine (EBM) and clinical practice guideline development throughout Central Asia, and the sharing of the resulting guidelines between countries. USAID will work with leading medical and nursing professional associations to further this goal. USAID will also support medical education reform as a crucial component to sustainable health systems reforms in Central Asia. Principal contractors/grantees: Abt Associates (prime), Morehouse University School of Medicine (sub), John Snow Inc. (sub), Boston University (sub), Citihope (sub), Socium Consult (sub), Scientific Technology and Language Institute (sub), and Institute for Sustainable Communities (sub).

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$135,000 FSA). USAID's regional TB control program will work with multi-sectoral high level working groups focused on expansion of the World Health Organization (WHO)-recommended Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS) strategy, rational drug management, work with prison health systems, and multi-drug resistant TB. The program will provide essential technical assistance to national TB control programs and assist them in applying for support from, and implementing national programs with funds from, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS. Tuberculosis, and Malaria. Principal contractors/grantees: Project HOPE (prime), Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (sub), John Snow Inc. (sub), and New Jersey Medical School National TB Center (sub).

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$1,238,000 CSH). Regional funds will reinforce drug demand reduction activities within the Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP), implemented by the Alliance for Open Society International. DDRP targets vulnerable populations with information about the risks of drug use, as well as with training in prevention and treatment of drug abuse. Approximately 70% of HIV infections in the region are linked to drug injection, so information and services to reduce this risk behavior provide a crucial preventive measure to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic. DDRP works in three countries (Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan); regional funds will be used to supplement country budgets and to support the implementation of innovative models that respond to this urgent cross-border threat. DDRP training targets professionals with modern approaches to reduce demand and address addiction; for example, funds will support counselors, including psychologists, to utilize a team approach to respond to drug use. DDRP also seeks to institutionalize education and training on the topic. DDRP's Youth Power Centers, will continue to offer information, education, and activities to help young people at particular risk make healthy choices about sex and drug use. Principal contractors/grantees: Alliance for Open Society International (prime), Eurasia Foundation (sub), Population Services International (sub), and Internews (sub).

FY 2007 Program:

Address Other Health Vulnerabilities (\$393,000). USAID will work to institutionalize progress on medical education reforms and clinical practice guideline development. Principal contractors/grantees: Abt Associates (prime), Morehouse University School of Medicine (sub), John Snow Inc. (sub), Boston University (sub), Citihope (sub), Socium Consult (sub), Scientific Technology and Language Institute (sub), and Institute for Sustainable Communities (sub).

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$207,000). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance on DOTS expansion to national TB control programs and multi-sectoral high-level working groups. Principal contractors/grantees: Project HOPE (prime), Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (sub), John Snow Inc. (sub), and New Jersey Medical School National TB Center (sub).

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$988,000 CSH). The Central Asian Program on AIDS Control and Intervention Targeting Youth and High-Risk Groups will continue to strengthen implementation of the national strategies to prevent and control HIV/AIDS. USAID's inter-agency agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be extended to intensify and broaden efforts on HIV sentinel surveillance training. Principal contractors/grantees: same implementers as above; additional contractors/grantees to be determined (TBD).

Performance and Results: Over the last year, USAID employed its regional primary health care reform activity to promote evidence-based medicine (EBM) and clinical practice guideline development throughout Central Asia. There has been considerable sharing of new evidence-based clinical guidelines between countries. For example, in November 2004, Kazakhstan EBM methodologists joined with Kyrgyz experts to conduct a five-day EBM course in Tashkent for 22 Uzbek General Practitioner trainers from most medical institutes in the country. During 2005, a total of 43 technical documents, including analytical reports, curricula, and manuals, were created and disseminated throughout the region in order to facilitate information exchange and sharing of lessons learned. USAID continues to support medical education reform as a crucial component for sustainable health systems reforms in Central Asia. As a result of ongoing collaboration between the USAID-funded regional Council of Rectors and the World Federation for Medical Education, appropriate undergraduate qualifications have been designed for use in Central Asia. USAID continued to fund the WHO regional TB advisor, now based in Tashkent, The regional advisor provides essential technical assistance to national TB control programs, ensuring their adherence to the DOTS strategy while incorporating approaches to treat chronic and multi-drug resistant TB. By program's end, these activities will help to reform health systems throughout the region, ensuring utilization of quality, cost-effective primary health care services; and to control existing HIV/AIDS and TB epidemics.

176-0320 Health and Population	сѕн	FSA
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	2,900	4,185
Expenditures	945	3,586
Unliquidated	1,955	599
Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	1,000	775
Expenditures	1,627	0
Through September 30, 2005		
Obligations	3,900	4,960
Expenditures	2,572	3,586
Unliquidated	1,328	1,374
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	1,238	775
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006		
Obligations	1,238	775
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA		
Obligations	988	600
Future Obligations	0	400
Est. Total Cost	6,126	6,735

USAID Mission: Central Asian Republics Regional Program Title: Cross-Cutting Programs

Pillar: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

Strategic Objective: 176-0420 Status: Continuing

Planned FY 2006 Obligation:\$53,000 FSAPrior Year Unobligated:\$185,000 FSAProposed FY 2007 Obligation:\$70,000 FSA

Year of Initial Obligation: 2001 Estimated Year of Final Obligation: 2007

Summary: Regional funds support program development and implementation and administrative and management needs across each of the Mission's strategic objectives and in cross-cutting areas.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Program Support: Program Development and Support (\$53,000 FSA, \$22,670 FSA carryover, \$162,344 FSA prior year recoveries). In FY 2006, programmatic, administrative, and management support will include technical assistance, staff salaries, performance monitoring and evaluations, public outreach, and development of a Mission Geographic Information System (GIS). It will also include religious outreach efforts through tours of our programs for and representational events with Islamic leaders to better inform them about our assistance and to incorporate community views into Mission programming. Additionally, FY 2006 regional funds will support preparation of the Mission's new strategy. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined (TBD).

FY 2007 Program:

Program Support: Program Development and Support (\$70,000 FSA). In FY 2007, regional funding will continue to support programmatic, administrative, and management needs such as technical assistance, staff salaries, performance monitoring and evaluations, public outreach, and GIS. Resources also will continue to support religious outreach efforts. Additionally, FY 2007 regional funds will be used to prepare a Performance Monitoring Plan, consistent with the Mission's new strategy. Principal contractors/grantees: TBD.

Performance and Results: In FY 2006, program development and support funds were used to exclusively fund staff costs.

FSA
14,432
11,748
2,684
91
2,629
14,523
14,377
146
185
53
238
70
70
14,901